

Aaron Voong
1202 Russia Ave.
San Francisco CA 94112

Aug 28th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

We connected with DSL technology over unbundled AT&T copper lines, and now Sonic.net is building their own gigabit fiber network to as many locations as quickly as they can. Today one third of Sonic customers are connected with Sonic fiber. That's how the 1996 Telecommunications Act is supposed to work: enabling competitive market entry and encouraging new network deployment.

But AT&T and their trade association, US Telecom, have recently petitioned the FCC to take away access to critical unbundled network elements. These unbundled elements are critical last-mile copper and inter-city fiber; the very technology that allowed local ISPs to grow, expand fiber deployment, and compete. Without access to this infrastructure, ISPs are at risk of losing access to a huge portion of their customer base, leading to potentially higher rates, less fiber deployment, and even less options for consumers.

Thanks to competitive telecommunication laws, Sonic has been able to build and connect tens of thousands of members on their own fiber network. But, that's only a portion of their customer base. They need continued access to copper as a bridge to fiber so that they can get everyone connected to the fastest, most affordable internet available.

So, we need your help!

Aaron Voong